111 tell thee what, thou damned tripe-visaged rascal ; an the child I now go with, do miscarry. thou hadst better thou hadst struck thy mother, thou paper-faced villain.

HOST. O the Lord, that sir John were come! he would make this a bloody day to somebody. But I pray God the fruit of her womb miscarry!

1 *B£^D*. If it do, you shall have a dozen of cushions[4] again: you have but eleven now. Come, I charge you both go with me: for the man is dead, that you and Pistol beat among you.

DOL. Ill tell thee what, thou thin man in a censer[5]! I will have you as soundly swinged for

or anglers: and Decker, in The Bell-man of London, 5th edit* 1640, describes this species of robbery in particular. STEEVENS.

4 — a dozen of cushions—] That is, to stuff her out that she might counterfeit pregnancy. So, in Massinger's Old Law: *e I said 1 was with child, &c. Thou said'st it was a *cushion,*" &c.

Again, in Greene's Disputation between a He Conevcatcher& &e. 1592 : *' — to wear a *cushion* under her own kirtle, and to faine herself with child.'* STEEVENS.

5 —, thou thin man in a CENSER !] These old *censers* of thin metal had generally at the bottom the figure of some saint raised up with a hammer, in a barbarous kind of imbossed or chased work. The hunger-starved beadle is compared, in substance, to one of these thin raised figures, by the same kind of humour that Pistol, in The Merry Wives of Windsor, calls Slender a *latten bilbo*e. WARBURTON.

Dr. Warburton's explanation is erroneous. The embossed figure to which Doll refers, was in the middle of the pierced convex lid of the *censer*: and not at the bottom, where it must have been out of sight.

That Doll Tear-sheet, however, may not be suspected of acquaintance with the *censers* mentioned in Scripture, and confined to sacred use, it should be remarked, that the consummate slutte[i]y of ancient houses rendered censers or fire-

pans, in which coarse perfumes were burnt, most necessary utensils. In Much Ado about Nothing, Act I. Sc. III. Borachio says he had been "entertained for a perfumer to smoke a *musty room* at Leonato's:" and in a Letter from the Lords of the Council, in the reign of King Edward VI. (see Lodge's Illustrations of British History, &c.